**Shelving of Central Sector Projects**

2804. VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering shelving of those central projects in the core sector which have crossed 60 per cent of their gestation period and have consumed 5 per cent of their project cost;

(b) if so, the names of such projects and the amount already spent on them;

(c) whether Government would fix responsibility for the tardy progress in completion of these projects; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure that other ongoing projects or future projects do not fall in the above category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Yes sir.

(b) No decision has been taken so far.

(c) Does not arise, in view of (b) above.

(c) Measures generally taken to improve the pace of implementation are given in Statement.

**Statement**

*Steps taken by the Government to Streamline for Preparing the Original Estimates and Implementation of Projects*

(i) Two-stage project approval for facilitating adequate preparation, environmental and other clearances and infrastructure planning at stage I before a project is finally approved for implementation at stage II.

(ii) Proper monitoring of projects at regular intervals, at various levels to identify constraints and take remedial measures

(iii) Indepth review of the progress by the project authorities and Administrative Ministries.

(iv) Setting up of Task Force/ Empowered Committees for speedy finalsation of contract packages, solving land acquisition and other problems.

(v) Close follow up by the concerned administrative Ministries and project authorities with the State Government, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays.

(vi) Inter-ministerial coordination.

**Rural Population Below the Poverty Line**

2805. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minsiter of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a NCA & R Survey which reveals that 39% of the rural population is living below the poverty line; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Planning Commission had claimed about a year ago that the population living below the poverty line was 19%;

(c) if so, the reasons for the anomaly figures quoted by the Planning Commission; and

(d) whether correct estimate of the actual poverty percentage is not available with the Planning Commission; if so, how the viability of various development schemes launched by Government can be justified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) A study on Human Development Profile of India conducted by NCAER based on a survey on